Dave Committee Financed by MSE

3163. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the work of the Dave Committee was financed by Mumbai Stock Exchange;

(b) if so, the amount provided by the MSE;

(c) whether the appointment of the Committee was done at the instance of MSE; and

(d) if the answer to part (c) is in negative, the reasons that prompted Government to appoint such Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) The work of the Dave Committee was financed by six (6) agencies including Mumbai Stock Exchange (MSE)

(b) The amount provided by the MSE was Rs. 7.50 lakhs.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The population of older persons in India is increasing at a very fast pace. The older population which was 56.7 million in 1991 is expected to grow to over 76 million by the 2001 and 137 million by 2021. This changing demographic profile of the country has been accompanied by a new societal order where it can no longer be assumed that the older persons will be looked after by their family/children. In this background the issue of old age social and income security has assumed a great significance. Realising that the poverty alleviation programmes directed at the aged alone cannot provide a complete solution to the problem, the Government felt that the problem needs to be examined for finding a solution. These are the reasons that prompted the Government to appoint an eight Member Expert Committee for focussing on this vital and emerging area of concern, to comprehensively examine the existing institutional mechanism and make recommendations for concrete action that the Government may take to ensure social and income security for every worker during his/her old age.